

Appl. No. 09/639,962

Amdt. dated June 27, 2005

Reply to Office action of April 14, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A piezoelectric assembly,  
comprising:

an elastic hollow body with an elasticity and formed with  
apertures at least partially determining said elasticity;

a top cover plate connected to said hollow body by one of  
welding and flanging, and a bottom cover plate connected to  
said hollow body; and

a piezoelectric actuator with a permanent and fixed prestress,  
said piezoelectric actuator being contacted by said hollow  
body, said top cover plate, and said bottom cover plate.

Claim 2 (original): The piezoelectric assembly according to  
claim 1, wherein said hollow body has a given length, two  
butting edges and at least one connecting seam connecting said  
two butting edges to one another and extending entirely over  
said given length.

Claim 3 (original): The piezoelectric assembly according to  
claim 1, wherein said hollow body has a longitudinal direction  
and two butting edges associated with one another and disposed

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in said longitudinal direction, said butting edges not being connected to one another.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (original): The piezoelectric assembly according to claim 1, wherein said hollow body is made of at least one plate formed into said hollow body and then fixed by at least one connecting seam.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The piezoelectric assembly according to claim 1, wherein said elasticity of said hollow body is matched to a desired manner of operation of said piezoelectric assembly.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The piezoelectric assembly according to claim 1, wherein said piezoelectric actuator has an extension direction and is inserted into said hollow body in said extension direction between said cover plates for prestressing said actuator.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The piezoelectric assembly according to claim 1, wherein said prestress of said piezoelectric actuator corresponds with said elasticity of said hollow body.

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Claim 9 (previously presented): The piezoelectric assembly according to claim 1, wherein said piezoelectric actuator has a shape, and said hollow body is matched in shape to said shape of said piezoelectric actuator.